

REMARKS

The undersigned attorney thanks Examiner Waxman for his careful review of this patent application. Reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested in light of the above amendments to the application in view of the following remarks. Prior to entry of this amendment, claims 1 - 59 were pending in the application. Claims 1 - 6, 8 - 10, 12, 13, 17, 18, 21 - 33, 35 - 41, 43 - 45, 47, 48, and 50 - 59 were rejected, while claims 7, 11, 14 - 16, 19, 20, 34, 42, 46, and 49 were objected to. Upon entry of this Response, claims 1, 3, 5, 6, 33, 36, 38, 40, and 41 will be cancelled and claims 2, 4, 7 - 32, 34, 35, 37, 39, and 42 - 59 will be pending in the application.

Allowed Subject Matter

In paragraph 4, the Official Action objected to claims 7, 11, 14 - 16, 19, 20, 34, 42, 46, and 49 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, including all of limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 7 has been rewritten in independent form to include the recitation of the base claim 1 plus the recitation of intervening claims 3, 5, and 6. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that claim 7 and all claims that depend therefrom are in condition for allowance.

Claims 25 and 35 have also been amended to include the allowed subject matter of claim 7. Therefore, the foregoing argument also applies to claims 25 and 35. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that claims 25 and 35, and all claims that depend therefrom, are in condition for allowance.

Claim 34 has also been rewritten in independent form to include the recitation of the base claim 33. Claim 33 has been cancelled. It is respectfully submitted that amended claim 34 is in condition for allowance.


Additionally, claim 42 has been rewritten in independent form to include the recitations of the base claim 36 and intervening claims 38, 40, and 41. As a result, claims 36, 38, 40, and 41 have been cancelled. It is respectfully submitted that amended claim 42 and all claims that depend therefrom, are in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully submitted that claims 2, 4, 7 - 32, and 34, 35, 37, 39, and 42 -59 are in condition for allowance and that each point raised in the Official Action with regard to these claims has been fully addressed. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the rejections to claims 2, 4, 7 - 32, 34, 35, 37, 39, and 42 - 59 be withdrawn and that the case be processed to issuance in accordance with Patent Office Business.

If the Examiner believes that there are any issues that can be resolved by a telephone conference, or that there are any informalities that can be corrected by an Examiner's amendment, please contact John Briski at 404.885.3141.

Respectfully submitted,

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